Resolution #19-20/16: Establishment of Native American Heritage Month

WHEREAS, Native Americans have made distinct and significant contributions in many fields (e.g., academic scholarship, agriculture, astronomy, art, business, education, ecology, engineering, environmentalism, economics, forestry, government, irrigation systems, language, leadership, literature, mathematics, medicine, military, music, politics, poetry, science); and

WHEREAS, the “Native American Heritage Month” has been established at the national level with a Presidential Proclamation to recognize significant contributions and rich legacies of Native Americans.

WHEREAS, California Governor Newsom in fall of 2019 acknowledged California Indian genocide and wants Californians to learn Native American history; and

WHEREAS, Section 51204.5 of the California Education Code states that instruction in social sciences shall include the early history of California and a study of the role and contributions of both men and women, Native Americans, and members of other ethnic and cultural groups (i.e., African Americans, Mexican Americans, Asian Americans, Pacific Islanders, European Americans, lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender Americans, persons with disabilities) to the economic, political, and social development of California and the United States of America, with particular emphasis on portraying the role of these groups in contemporary society;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Board of the Yolo County Office of Education that November 2019 is designated as Native American Heritage Month and that all educational sites be encouraged to recognize the contributions of Native Americans through our curriculum and activities at school; and know that there is an approved Land Acknowledgement Statement applicable to Yolo County;
Land Acknowledgement Statement

We should take a moment to acknowledge the land on which we are gathered on at this meeting. For thousands of years, this land has been the home of Patwin people, including Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation today. The Patwin people have remained committed to the stewardship of this land over many centuries. It has been cherished and protected, as elders have instructed the young through generations. We are honored and grateful to be working today on their traditional lands.

(Approved by Yocha Dehe Tribal Council 5/14/19)

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be distributed to every district in Yolo County.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 22nd Day of October 2019 by the following vote:

AYES: Moreno, Souza Cole, Taylor, Yip, Zendedajes
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

Shelton Yip, President
Yolo County Board of Education

Garth Lewis
Yolo County Superintendent of Schools